

CORRECTED REBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF
PETER B. DAVID
ON BEHALF OF
DOMINION ENERGY SOUTH CAROLINA, INC.
DOCKET NO. 2021-88-E

1 **Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME, POSITION, AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.**

2 A. My name is Peter B. David. My business address is 150 N. Riverside Plaza,
3 Suite 2100, Chicago, IL, 60606.

4
5 **Q. ARE YOU THE SAME PETER DAVID THAT OFFERED DIRECT**
6 **TESTIMONY IN THIS DOCKET?**

7 A. Yes, I am.

8
9 **Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR REBUTTAL TESTIMONY?**

10 A. The purpose of my rebuttal testimony is to discuss the response of Dominion
11 Energy South Carolina, Inc. (“DESC” or the “Company”) to certain issues raised in
12 1) the direct testimony of Mr. Ed Burgess filed on behalf of the Carolinas Clean
13 Energy Business Association (“CCEBA”); and 2) the direct testimony of Mr. Brian
14 Horii filed on behalf of the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff (“ORS”). The
15 lack of a response to any of the specific assertions made by these witnesses does not
16 constitute the Company’s agreement to those assertions.

REBUTTAL TO TESTIMONY OF MR. ED BURGESS

Q. WITH RESPECT TO MR. BURGESS'S TESTIMONY, PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW YOU ORGANIZE YOUR RESPONSES.

A. My rebuttal testimony sequentially addresses certain issues raised by Mr. Burgess as they appear in his direct testimony.

Q. ON PAGE 7 MR. BURGESS STATES THAT GUIDEHOUSE RESULTS ARE A “ROUGH APPROXIMATION OF POSSIBLE OPERATING CONDITIONS ON THE DESC SYSTEM.” DO YOU AGREE?

A. I disagree with the notion that Guidehouse results are only a “rough approximation” of the Company’s operating conditions. As discussed in my direct testimony, for more than 10 years Guidehouse (and its predecessor, Navigant) has maintained a Reference Case forecast for all ISOs, RTOs, and NERC sub-regions that is updated twice a year. This forecast is conducted on a nodal basis, representing the entire transmission footprint in addition to generation, and incorporates near and long-term outlooks on demand and energy growth, generator additions and retirements, fuel prices, emissions prices, federal and state regulations, and transmission infrastructure investment. This forecast is regularly used by a wide array of different market participants, including both developers and utilities, for projects involving resource planning, asset valuation, and renewable integration. Furthermore, Guidehouse has a well-earned reputation for providing an

1 independent, thorough, and detailed forecast of North American energy markets.
2 Additionally, Guidehouse incorporated insights from DESC's most recent
3 Integrated Resource Plan ("IRP") as well as detailed plant operating parameters for
4 plants operated by the Company in order to model the DESC system as accurately
5 as possible. Thus, to call Guidehouse's approach a "rough approximation" entirely
6 mischaracterizes the entire field of production cost modeling and ignores the care,
7 due diligence, research, and professional analysis undertaken by Guidehouse under
8 my direct supervision to develop the Variable Integration Cost Study presented as
9 Exhibit No. ____ (PBD-2) ("VIC Study") in my Direct Testimony.

10
11 **Q. ON PAGE 7, MR. BURGESS STATES THAT GUIDEHOUSE'S MODEL**
12 **INPUTS "GROSSLY MISREPRESENT DESC'S ACTUAL OPERATING**
13 **PRACTICES" AND, AS A RESULT, GUIDEHOUSE'S MODELED**
14 **INTEGRATION COSTS ARE SIGNIFICANTLY INFLATED. HOW DO**
15 **YOU RESPOND TO THIS POSITION?**

16 A. I disagree with this unfounded and incorrect assertion. As discussed in my
17 previous response, Guidehouse worked closely with DESC to verify the operating
18 parameters for all of the generation assets and used DESC's published IRP in order
19 to accurately model annual peak demand, annual energy usage, and long-term
20 capacity additions and retirements. In addition to verifying that all generating assets
21 are represented correctly within the model, Guidehouse also underwent a rigorous
22 benchmarking exercise in order to achieve near-term forecast dispatch results that

1 follow trends observed in recent historical dispatch in order to ensure that the model
2 is appropriately synced with the Company's actual operations. Thus, contrary to
3 "grossly misrepresenting" DESC's operating practices and thereby "significantly
4 inflating" DESC's integration cost, the facts demonstrate that Guidehouse's
5 modeling accurately reflects the operating parameters of DESC's system, resulting
6 in an accurate and fair determination of actual costs experienced by DESC to
7 integrate the various tranches of solar generation on its system today and expected
8 in the future.

9
10 **Q. IN MULTIPLE INSTANCES IN HIS TESTIMONY, MR. BURGESS**
11 **CRITICIZES THE USE OF MODELED RESULTS INSTEAD OF DESC'S**
12 **ACTUAL INTEGRATION COSTS. ON PAGE 8 MR. BURGESS WRITES**
13 **THAT "DESC ALREADY HAS CONSIDERABLE EXPERIENCE**
14 **OPERATING ITS SYSTEM WITH THESE RESOURCES" BECAUSE**
15 **MORE THAN 80% OF THE TRANCHE 1 SOLAR CAPACITY IS**
16 **ALREADY ONLINE. ON PAGE 9 HE REPEATS THAT DESC SHOULD BE**
17 **ABLE TO TRACK THE INCREASED OPERATING RESERVE**
18 **REQUIREMENTS AND ASSOCIATED COSTS WITH INTEGRATING**
19 **SOLAR BECAUSE IT HAS "HAD OVER 2 YEARS TO COLLECT DATA**
20 **ON INTEGRATION COSTS INCURRED DUE TO SOLAR ABOVE THE**
21 **BASELINE LEVEL OF 340 MW." HOW DO YOU RESPOND TO THIS?**

1 A. The costs associated with integrating higher levels of solar penetration are
2 directly related to the increased operating reserve requirements that are driven by
3 solar forecast uncertainty. An attempt to tie the long-term cost of integrating solar
4 capacity to what the Company has observed over the last two years is misguided for
5 several reasons.

6 First and foremost, Guidehouse's modeled variable integration cost ("VIC")
7 for the different tranches of solar penetration in the study is based on what operating
8 reserve requirements should be, not what they have been in the past. The operating
9 reserve levels that DESC has required in recent history have been lower than what
10 Guidehouse recommends; consequently, there would be significant differences
11 between the actual costs incurred by DESC for integrating solar over the last two
12 years versus what those costs may have been with a more appropriate operating
13 reserve requirement.

14 Second, the fact that DESC has not had an event in these last two years in
15 which the amount of available operating reserves was insufficient is not evidence
16 that Guidehouse's recommended operating reserve requirement is too high or
17 otherwise unreasonable. Two years is a relatively small sample size; as indicated in
18 my response to question 10 from CCEBA's second request for records in this
19 docket, the 90th percentile event around which Guidehouse defined its operating
20 reserve requirements is one that is very unlikely to occur regularly but can be
21 reasonably expected to occur at least once during the 10-year forecast period. Thus

1 it is unsurprising and not statistically meaningful that no such event occurred during
2 a single two-year period.

3 Third, attempting to tie the future costs for integrating solar capacity,
4 including capacity that has already come online over the last two years, to costs
5 previously incurred to integrate solar capacity naively disregards the ways in which
6 both the Company's and neighboring balancing authorities' ("BAs") systems are
7 expected to evolve in the future. The VIC proposed by Guidehouse is a net present
8 value ("NPV") that is levelized across 10 forecast years. Driven by changes in the
9 generation landscape, the costs associated both with producing power within the
10 DESC service territory and purchasing power to import from neighboring BA's will
11 shift dramatically. As a result, the costs in 2025, for example, associated with
12 integrating existing solar capacity will be significantly different than the costs that
13 may have already been incurred to integrate that capacity. In sum, though, for the
14 current proceeding, the VIC Study presents the costs of integrating the various
15 tranches of solar generation into DESC's system and represents the values that
16 Guidehouse recommends be set to ensure that the costs associated with integrating
17 solar is borne by the cost-causers and not DESC's other customers.

18
19 **Q. ON PAGES 11-12 MR. BURGESS CLAIMS THAT GUIDEHOUSE**
20 **"SIGNIFICANTLY OVERESTIMATED THE INTEGRATION COSTS**
21 **INCLUDED IN THE VIC" BECAUSE THE OPERATING RESERVE**
22 **REQUIREMENT THAT GUIDEHOUSE MODELED IS GREATER THAN**

1 THE COMPANY'S SYSTEM OPERATORS HAVE REQUIRED. AS
2 SUPPORT HE INCLUDES A CHART SHOWING THE DIFFERENCE
3 BETWEEN THE OPERATING RESERVES AS MODELED BY
4 GUIDEHOUSE VERSUS THOSE CURRENTLY HELD BY DESC, AND
5 CLAIMS THAT THE DIFFERENCE DISPLAYED IS PROOF THAT THE
6 GUIDEHOUSE STUDY IS FLAWED. DO YOU AGREE?

7 A. I disagree that Guidehouse's study is flawed or that I have overestimated the
8 integration costs included in the VIC. As previously discussed in this testimony, the
9 Guidehouse study is based on what operating reserve requirements should be, not
10 what they have been in the past. Based on the thorough analysis and modeling
11 performed in the Study, DESC has informed Guidehouse that it is taking the VIC
12 Study's recommendations for operating reserve levels under advisement. Therefore,
13 the fact that operating reserve levels included in this study are greater than what
14 DESC currently maintains is immaterial and this criticism has no merit.

15
16 Q. ON PAGES 12-13 MR. BURGESS INDICATES THAT HE DOES NOT
17 KNOW WHETHER THE COMPANY'S CURRENT PRACTICE OF
18 HOLDING INCREMENTAL OPERATING RESERVES EQUAL TO 40%
19 OF EXPECTED SOLAR GENERATION IS APPROPRIATE. HOW DO
20 YOU RESPOND TO THIS?

21 A. Mr. Burgess's admission that he does not know whether or not the
22 Company's current practices with respect to operating reserve requirements is

1 appropriate simply proves he is guessing because he has not performed the modeling
2 necessary to offer an opinion that is informed by and based upon rigorous analysis.
3 Moreover, his admission invalidates every argument he levies with respect to the
4 operating reserve requirements modeled by Guidehouse. Mr. Burgess attempts to
5 soften this by claiming that it is possible that the 40% of expected solar generation
6 level of operating reserves employed by DESC is appropriate or it is possible that it
7 is higher than is necessary; however, he leaves unstated that it is also possible, and
8 in fact likely based on Guidehouse's modeled results, that the current level of
9 operating reserves that the Company requires is too low. In sum, Mr. Burgess offers
10 no evidence that the operating reserve requirements as modeled by Guidehouse are
11 too high beyond the observation that they are higher than the level that DESC
12 currently requires. However, given that Guidehouse modeled what the operating
13 reserve requirement should be rather than what it has been in the past as previously
14 discussed, and that Mr. Burgess admits that he does not know what the appropriate
15 level of operating reserve requirements should be, his claim that the operating
16 reserve requirements as modeled by Guidehouse are too high is meritless and should
17 be disregarded.

18
19 **Q. ON PAGES 14-16 MR. BURGESS DISCUSSES THE FACT THAT DESC**
20 **HAS HISTORICALLY HAD AVERAGE AVAILABLE OPERATING**
21 **RESERVES IN EXCESS OF WHAT GUIDEHOUSE'S STUDY**
22 **DETERMINED IS REQUIRED TO INTEGRATE EACH TRANCHE OF**

1 **SOLAR PENETRATION. MR. BURGESS THEN ARGUES THAT THE**
2 **COST TO INTEGRATE SOLAR SHOULD BE “ESSENTIALLY ZERO”.**
3 **DO YOU AGREE?**

4 A. I disagree with the conclusions drawn by Mr. Burgess here. Mr. Burgess
5 specifically references the average amount of operating reserves available on the
6 Company’s system in recent years; however, the operating reserves available in any
7 given hour can and do vary significantly from the overall monthly average. Contrary
8 to what Mr. Burgess states, it is absolutely normal in both the historical and forecast
9 operations to experience available operating reserves significantly exceeding the
10 minimum reserve requirement. Moreover, the need for increasing the minimum
11 operating reserve requirement in order to integrate solar capacity is not in any way
12 driven by the average values that Mr. Burgess points to but rather by the relatively
13 small number of hours in which available operating reserves are close to the
14 minimum requirement.

15 Mr. Burgess references Guidehouse’s modeling of the Baseline scenario that
16 includes the current 250 MW operating reserve requirement; he then argues that,
17 while 250 MW is the minimum requirement, it is far below the level of reserves that
18 are typically available on the Company’s system and that the Guidehouse VIC
19 analysis may be misrepresenting how the Company’s system is operated if the
20 operating reserves available in the baseline analysis are close to the minimum
21 requirement. However, as Mr. Burgess has seen in the ~~“Guidehouse VIC~~
22 ~~Calculation Workbook” Excel files for each solar tranche that were provided in~~

1 ~~response to ORS request for records 1-4~~ [Excel workbook files provided in response](#)
2 [to CCEBA request for records 2-14](#), his statement flagrantly misrepresents how
3 Guidehouse modeled the Company's system. As shown in these workpapers,
4 Guidehouse's analysis shows DESC carrying available operating reserves in
5 significant excess of the baseline 250 MW requirement in most hours; the cost to
6 integrate solar capacity for each tranche is driven by the need to increase available
7 operating reserves in the relatively small number of hours in which the Company
8 does not carry an excess in the Baseline scenario and the ways in which overall
9 system dispatch must change in other hours in order to accommodate those changes.

10 In sum, Mr. Burgess's recommendation of zero for the VIC is simply
11 expressing what his client wishes the VIC to be, but is not evidence of what the VIC
12 actually is. Thus, his musing about the appropriate level of operating reserves
13 should be disregarded as providing proof of nothing other than Mr. Burgess just
14 simply does not know, as he candidly admits.
15

16 **Q. ON PAGE 18 MR. BURGESS DISCUSSES WAYS IN WHICH THE**
17 **GUIDEHOUSE STUDY IMPROVED UPON SOME DEFICIENCIES**
18 **IDENTIFIED IN THE PRIOR STUDY CONDUCTED IN 2019. WHAT IS**
19 **YOUR POSITION?**

20 A. Mr. Burgess notes in this section that "in the present case, it appears that
21 DESC has assumed additional reserve requirements equal to a more balanced 90th
22 percentile of instances with a drop in solar generation, rather than the extreme 100th

1 percentile they assumed in 2019.” I agree with Mr. Burgess that the 90th percentile
2 of instances with a drop in solar generation is a balanced approach; as a result of
3 this balanced approach Guidehouse has produced a reasonable forecast for
4 minimum operating reserve requirements and thus a reasonable analysis of the VIC
5 associated with integrating solar capacity on the Company’s system.

6
7 **Q. ON PAGES 17-19 MR. BURGESS IDENTIFIES WHAT HE BELIEVES ARE**
8 **SEVERAL OTHER DEFICIENCIES IN GUIDEHOUSE’S STUDY. DO YOU**
9 **AGREE WITH MR. BURGESS’S FINDINGS?**

10 A. I disagree with each of the issues that Mr. Burgess has labeled as a deficiency.
11 In this response I will go through each one individually.

- 12 • Mr. Burgess states that, in the 2019 study, “The modeled solar output profile
13 overestimated volatility and only partially accounts for the effects of
14 geographic diversity, thus inherently overestimating integration costs.” He
15 claims that he cannot determine whether or not that issue has been corrected
16 in this study “because DESC’s workpapers provided to date do not contain
17 critical information on how the incremental reserve requirements were
18 determined based on the solar volatility profiles.” In the “Guidehouse
19 Flexibility Reserves Requirement Workbook” Excel files that were provided
20 to CCEBA (and referenced on page 19 of Mr. Burgess’s testimony), the full
21 set of data that Guidehouse used to calculate the incremental operating

1 reserve needs is included. These files show National Renewable Energy
2 Laboratory (“NREL”) simulations of both 5-minute actual generation and 4-
3 hour ahead hourly scheduled solar generation from a wide array of solar sites
4 across the Company’s footprint. This data includes latitude and longitude
5 coordinates for all of the NREL solar sites that were considered as well as
6 the corresponding coordinates for the existing and in-development solar
7 facilities across DESC. This data demonstrates that the impact of geographic
8 diversity on solar forecast error and corresponding operating reserve
9 requirement needs were considered appropriately. Mr. Burgess also registers
10 a complaint that the workpapers provided did not include formulas; as
11 specifically indicated in prior responses, no such formula workbooks exist as
12 Guidehouse employed a VBA-based model to conduct Monte Carlo draws to
13 compare the actual generation data to the scheduled data. All of the solar
14 forecast, generation, and locational data that Guidehouse used to conduct
15 these Monte Carlo simulations has been provided.

- 16 • Mr. Burgess also repeats in this section his criticism that the minimum
17 operating reserve requirements as modeled by Guidehouse are greater than
18 those that have been required by the Company in recent history. Mr. Burgess
19 again points to the fact that, in recent history, DESC’s operating reserve
20 requirement associated with solar penetration has been equal to 40% of
21 expected solar generation and claims that, in this study, Guidehouse and
22 DESC “inexplicably assumes that incremental reserves equal to 60% of solar

1 generation are needed to avoid a reserve shortfall.” First, as previously
2 discussed, Guidehouse’s analysis is based on what Guidehouse calculated
3 the operating reserve requirement should be, not what DESC has historically
4 held. Second, the statement that this study used the assumption that
5 incremental operating reserves should be equal to 60% of solar generation is
6 an inaccurate description of how this study was conducted. Guidehouse did
7 not attempt to match the operating reserve requirement to a specific level of
8 solar capacity or generation; rather, as previously discussed, Guidehouse
9 rigorously modeled what the minimum operating reserve requirement should
10 be for each level of solar penetration. The 60% value that Mr. Burgess refers
11 to is simply a conservative estimate of maximum potential shortfall of solar
12 generation based on the modeled incremental increase in operating reserve
13 requirements. It is not used in any calculations to determine the VIC; it is
14 only used to show illustrative examples of when there may be operating
15 reserve shortages due to solar generation shortfall if the Company’s
16 minimum operating reserve requirement is not increased from its current 250
17 MW level.

- 18 • Mr. Burgess discusses the adjustments that Guidehouse made in the
19 benchmarking process to define specific pumping and generating hours for
20 the Fairfield pumped hydro facility as well as the fact that the facility is
21 modeled as being able to provide operating reserves only when generating
22 and not when offline or pumping. Mr. Burgess claims that, in modeling the

1 Fairfield pumped hydro facility as described, Guidehouse has restricted its
2 ability to provide operating reserves in a way that invalidates the VIC study.
3 This claim fundamentally misrepresents both how this study was conducted
4 and how a production cost model such as PROMOD works. There are three
5 important facts that contradict Mr. Burgess's claims:

- 6 ○ The fact that Guidehouse defined specific hours in which the Fairfield
7 pumped storage asset can (but does not have to if market conditions
8 do not require it) either pump or generate does not prevent the asset
9 from providing operating reserves when needed. The vast majority of
10 solar generating hours, including each of the sample hours with
11 potential operating reserve shortages due to solar shortfall shown in
12 table 13 of Exhibit No. ____ (PBD-2), are hours in which the pumped
13 storage asset can generate and thus provide operating reserves if
14 required. The fact that the pumped storage asset is not generating, and
15 thus not providing operating reserves, in those hours is not due to the
16 way in which the Fairfield pumped storage asset's pumping and
17 generating hours are defined, but rather due to the fact that the
18 economic solution does not support the asset generating in those
19 hours, and, with the baseline reserve requirement, it is not needed for
20 operating reserves in those hours either.
- 21 ○ The Fairfield pumped storage asset's ability to provide operating
22 reserves when offline or pumping driven by its ability to switch to

1 generation mode in less than 15 minutes in real world operations
2 depends on factors such as reservoir level that are impossible to
3 predict over the long term without first conducting the modeling
4 exercise. For example, it would be unreasonable to model the asset as
5 being able to provide operating reserves during an hour in which it is
6 not generating if the reservoir was empty or the facility was otherwise
7 not actually capable of generating.

- 8 ○ Mr. Burgess's claims that the Fairfield pumped storage facility is not
9 being properly utilized to provide operating reserves because it is
10 modeled as only being able to provide operating reserves when it is
11 already generating misrepresents how the asset is actually modeled
12 within PROMOD. Other assets that can provide "quick-start
13 reserves,"¹ namely gas combustion turbines ("CTs"), have significant
14 costs associated with generating from both fuel and non-fuel variable
15 operations and maintenance ("VOM") as well as costs associated with
16 starting up; if those assets were only able to provide operating reserves
17 when already online, and not quick-start reserves, it would
18 significantly impact the forecast dispatch as PROMOD would need to
19 account for those costs as well as other operating restrictions, such as
20 minimum generation levels and minimum up and down times, in order

¹ "Quick-start reserves" here are defined as operating reserves provided by assets that are not online but are capable of starting up and syncing with the grid within 15 minutes

1 to have those assets online to provide operating reserves. Conversely,
2 the Fairfield pumped storage facility is modeled with no variable
3 costs, no start costs, minimum up and down times of only 1 hour, and
4 a minimum generation level of only 0.1% of its maximum
5 capabilities; so long as the reservoir is filled to a sufficient level and
6 the asset is otherwise available (i.e. not offline due to planned
7 maintenance), PROMOD can turn it on immediately in order to
8 provide operating reserves at a level up to 99.9% of its maximum
9 capability whenever necessary. Fairfield can provide operating
10 reserves when it is economic to do so, subject to this *de minimis*
11 operating expense. The model chooses other sources of operating
12 reserves because they result in lower system costs. Thus, there is no
13 merit to the claim that my analysis restricts Fairfield's ability to
14 provide operating reserves.

- 15 • Mr. Burgess again claims that “DESC did not properly account for
16 geographic diversity of solar resources on its system.” As I established earlier
17 in my testimony, the study does explicitly account for geographic diversity.
18 Mr. Burgess's claim regarding geographic diversity not being properly
19 accounted for is in reference to the workpapers showing the risk of solar
20 shortfall provided in response to CCEBA request for records 2-14. Mr.
21 Burgess claims that the 60% solar shortfall included in these workbooks
22 implies that “DESC is incorrectly assuming that a 60% drop in solar

1 production could occur simultaneously across all facilities, which is
2 statistically a virtual impossibility.” The quoted statement by Mr. Burgess is
3 a gross misinterpretation of the data provided. The 60% drop in solar
4 production does not represent a scenario in which every single facility’s
5 production simultaneously drops 60%; rather, it represents a scenario in
6 which the production from a select group of facilities drops to or close to 0
7 while the rest are entirely unaffected, and the missing generation from those
8 specific facilities represents 60% of the total expected solar generation on the
9 system. Further, Mr. Burgess’s claim that “any unexpected drop in a single
10 facility is not likely to be correlated with other facilities” is only partially
11 correct; the Company covers a relatively small service territory,² and thus the
12 impact of geographic diversity on this study is somewhat limited, and while
13 an unexpected drop in a single facility is indeed unlikely to be correlated with
14 drops at *all* facilities within the Company’s service territory, it is highly
15 likely to be correlated with drops at other nearby solar facilities.
16 Guidehouse’s study does not make any claims as to which specific solar
17 facilities may experience unexpected drops at any given time, but rather
18 determines through extensive analysis that the sum total of missing

² DESC’s service territory covers roughly 16,000 square miles. For comparison, that is 33% smaller than its neighboring BA, Duke Energy Carolinas, which covers roughly 24,000 square miles, and 80% smaller than the roughly 80,000 square miles covered by another nearby service territory, the Tennessee Valley Authority.

1 generation from the facilities that do experience drops could be as high as
2 60% of the total solar generation expected on the system.

3 **Q. ON PAGES 21-22, MR. BURGESS DISCUSSES WHAT HE BELIEVES IS**
4 **AN ERROR IN THE ANALYSIS RELATED TO THE WEIGHTING OF**
5 **INTEGRATION. WHAT IS YOUR RESPONSE?**

6 A. Mr. Burgess is correct that the original plan for the analysis was to weight
7 the integration costs by the hourly solar generation. However, he is incorrect that
8 the lack of weighting in the final analysis (beyond the binary weighting based on
9 whether or not there is any solar generation in the hour) is erroneous. While I
10 considered the merits of weighting by solar production, in the final analysis I
11 ultimately concluded an unweighted average better reflected the costs to the system.
12 However, in the description of the weighting included in my direct testimony, I
13 inadvertently did not update it to reflect the correction to the weighting.

14 Mr. Burgess levies several criticisms based on the Company's response to
15 ORS request for records 3-1b, all of which are without merit and should be rejected.
16 First, he discusses the explanation that integration costs in low solar (i.e. early
17 morning or late evening) hours are influenced by macro-level changes in operations
18 driven by the increased operating reserve requirement high solar (i.e. midday) hours
19 and states "even if this were true it is not sufficient to explain an equal weighting
20 during all morning hours." Mr. Burgess's claim here is false.

1 When PROMOD solves for the optimal dispatch of the system, the amount
2 of operating reserves it will force a system to hold depends solely on the conditions
3 defined for that specific scenario and not anything related to a previously analyzed
4 scenario. As has been previously discussed in this testimony, the fact that available
5 operating reserves during the vast majority of early morning low solar hours when
6 modeled with the baseline requirement exceed the increased operating reserve
7 requirement that Guidehouse calculated does not mean that modeling the increased
8 minimum operating reserve requirement will cause PROMOD increase the
9 available operating reserves in those hours. Rather, the operating constraints
10 modeled for thermal generators, such as start costs and minimum up and down
11 times, imply that changes in dispatch (and thus changes in system costs) in all hours
12 due to an increased operating reserve requirement are driven by the need to procure
13 additional reserves during gross peak hours that correspond with high solar output
14 during the middle of the day. Therefore, weighting the change in system costs in an
15 early morning low solar hour by the level of solar generation in that same hour is
16 inappropriate.

17 Mr. Burgess also levels a similar criticism to the lack of weighting during
18 late afternoon and early evening hours, stating that “this principle would not apply
19 in the afternoon or evening since there is no need for incremental reserves to be held
20 after sunset.” Mr. Burgess is correct that there is no need for incremental reserves
21 for integrating solar capacity to be held after sunset; nevertheless, his criticism here
22 is unfounded. First, again driven by the operating constraints modeled for thermal

1 generators, dispatch decisions in the late afternoon and early evening hours can be
2 influenced by system needs both earlier in that day and the next day. Considerations
3 of minimum up and down times and start costs can lead to a thermal generator being
4 online late in the evening when the economics of the hour don't necessarily support
5 it being online. Why? Because either the resource was needed earlier in the day
6 and cannot shut down yet due to minimum up time constraints, or it will be needed
7 the next day coupled with the operator's knowledge that the amount of money it
8 will lose operating uneconomically overnight is less than the charges it will incur
9 for a startup the next day. It is likely that increased costs in most or all overnight
10 non-solar hours are driven by the need to procure additional operating reserves
11 during gross peak midday hours; nevertheless, I conservatively excluded those
12 hours from the study. Therefore, weighting the change in system costs in a late
13 afternoon or evening low solar hour by the level of solar generation in that same
14 hour is also inappropriate.

15 Lastly, Mr. Burgess references the Company's explanation that the potential
16 for solar forecast error as a percentage of expected solar generation is greater during
17 low solar hours than high solar hours. Mr. Burgess attempts to refute this point by
18 claiming "the percent error is completely irrelevant to the total MW of reserves
19 needed to accommodate any shortfall – what matters is the MW magnitude,
20 duration, and unexpectedness of the shortfall." While Mr. Burgess is correct that the
21 magnitude and duration of an unexpected shortfall are the important factors here,
22 his criticism misses the mark. First of all, because the forecast error as a percentage

1 of expected solar generation is greater during low solar hours than high solar hours,
2 the magnitude and duration of a potential solar shortfall is not significantly reduced
3 during low solar hours. Secondly, and more importantly, as previously discussed,
4 the increase in system costs during low solar hours is driven by macro-level changes
5 to overall system dispatch and not the need to meet increased operating reserve
6 requirements in those hours, so the operating reserve requirement in those specific
7 hours being potentially too high is immaterial to the analysis.
8

9 **Q. ON PAGES 22-23, MR. BURGESS CLAIMS THAT THE VIC THAT**
10 **GUIDEHOUSE CALCULATED FOR TRANCHE 1 IS INAPPROPRIATELY**
11 **INFLATED BECAUSE IT ALLOCATES INTEGRATION COSTS ACROSS**
12 **ONLY GENERATION FROM THE 633 MW OF SOLAR CAPACITY**
13 **INCLUDED IN TRANCHE 1 AND NOT ANY OF THE GENERATION**
14 **FROM THE 340 MW OF BASELINE SOLAR. DO YOU AGREE?**

15 A. I disagree with Mr. Burgess's assertion that any of the costs to integrate the
16 Tranche 1 solar capacity should be allocated to the 340 MW of baseline solar
17 facilities. Mr. Burgess writes that "DESC's model evaluates the incremental cost of
18 Operating Reserves necessary to support the full 973 MW of solar." While this is
19 technically correct, Mr. Burgess incorrectly implies that the incremental increase in
20 operating reserve requirements is based on going from 0 MW of solar penetration
21 to 973 MW. In reality, the incremental increase in operating reserves calculated for
22 this scenario were based on increasing solar penetration by 633 MW (i.e. the size of

tranche 1) with no opinion taken or analysis done on what the appropriate level of operating reserves should be for the 340 MW of baseline solar penetration. Thus, when Mr. Burgess writes that “presumably at least some of the incremental integration costs in the 973 MW scenario are attributable to the initial 340 MW of solar generation included in the Baseline tranche,” he is mistaken. All of the incremental increases in minimum operating reserve requirements incorporated in this study, and thus all of the incremental increases in system costs, are attributable specifically to the Tranche 1 solar capacity.

Q. ON PAGE 23, MR. BURGESS IDENTIFIES A FORMULA ERROR IN THE WORKPAPERS PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO CCEBA REQUEST FOR RECORDS 2-14. HOW DO YOU RESPOND?

A. Mr. Burgess is correct that there is a spreadsheet error that impacts the reported potential operating reserve shortfall in the 2029-31 timeframe. However, while we regret this error, it is entirely immaterial to the analysis. It neither influences the reported VIC nor impacts the illustrative examples of potential reserve shortfalls shown in table 13 of Exhibit No. ____ (PBD-2). While Guidehouse and DESC can provide a corrected workbook if requested, it has no bearing whatsoever on the overall analysis.

Q. ON PAGES 23-24 MR. BURGESS REFERENCES THE MW OF POTENTIAL RESERVE SHORTFALLS SHOWN IN TABLE 13 OF

**EXHIBIT NO. ____ (PBD-2) AS WELL AS THE WORKPAPERS PROVIDED
IN THE COMPANIES RESPONSE TO CCEBA REQUEST FOR RECORDS
2-18. HE CLAIMS THAT, SINCE THE RESERVE SHORTFALLS ARE
LESS THAN THE RECOMMENDED INCREMENTAL INCREASE IN
OPERATING RESERVES, THAT GUIDEHOUSE'S MODELED
INCREMENTAL INCREASE IN OPERATING RESERVES IS INFLATED.
DO YOU AGREE?**

A. I disagree with the conclusion that Mr. Burgess has drawn here. Once again, Mr. Burgess is fundamentally misrepresenting the way that a production cost model such as PROMOD operates. He fails to recognize that an increase in the incremental operating reserve requirement is fundamentally different than an increase in available operating reserves. The fact that the reserve shortfalls when the system is modeled with the baseline 250 MW minimum operating reserve requirement are less than the required incremental increase in operating reserves as modeled by Guidehouse does not mean that the incremental increase in operating reserves is too great. As has been previously discussed and just like in DESC's actual operations, the operating reserve requirement modeled in PROMOD is the *minimum* amount operating reserves the Company must hold but the actual amount of operating reserves available in any given hour is often substantially greater.

As an example, Mr. Burgess points to the fact that “the highest level of shortfall in the scenario without incremental reserves was 151 MW (for October). This is approximately half of the 299 MW in assumed incremental reserve needs

1 Guidehouse assumed for Tranche 1 in that month.” However, what he fails to
2 mention is that the hourly data in the workpapers provided in response to CCEBA
3 request for records 2-14 shows the amount of available operating reserves and the
4 risk of reserve shortfall in every hour of the forecast. The 151 MW shortfall value
5 for October that he references occurs on 10/9/2027 hour ending 16; while the reserve
6 shortfall of 151 MW is approximately half of the 299 MW increase in incremental
7 operating reserves for the month as suggested by Guidehouse, Mr. Burgess fails to
8 note that the system is already carrying 498 MW of available operating reserves at
9 that hour (not including 100 MW of interruptible load).

10 As previously noted in this testimony, if I run a baseline scenario in
11 PROMOD and then run a second scenario with increased operating reserve
12 requirements but no other input assumption changes, the increased operating reserve
13 requirement scenario will not simply show available operating reserves in any hour
14 as being equal to the sum of the available operating reserves in that hour in the
15 baseline case and the increased operating reserve requirement. Instead, as in real
16 world operations, the PROMOD solution will simply change so that minimum
17 amount of operating reserves available in any hour is at least equal to the increased
18 reserve requirement; in any hour in the baseline solution in which the available
19 operating reserves exceed the minimum operating reserve requirement in the
20 increased reserve case there is no need for the PROMOD dispatch to change in that
21 hour to accommodate that hour’s increased operating reserve requirement. In other
22 words, if the analysis were conducted with the operating reserve requirement in

October increased from 250 MW by only 151 MW, the minimum operating reserve requirement in that hour of 401 MW would still be less than 498 MW of available operating reserves in the baseline reserve scenario and thus there's no reason to believe that it would not still result in the same level of potential reserve shortfall.

Q. ON PAGES 24-26, MR. BURGESS PROVIDES A SUMMARY OF WHAT HE IDENTIFIES AS DEFICIENCIES OR ERRORS IN THE GUIDEHOUSE ANALYSIS. DO YOU AGREE WITH HIS FINDINGS?

A. I disagree with each of the issues that Mr. Burgess claims to be deficiencies or errors in the analysis. Many of the issues presented in the table on pages 24-25 of Mr. Burgess's testimony have already been discussed in this rebuttal and thus do not need to be repeated; several have not, so I will rebut them here.

First, Mr. Burgess claims that, in both the current analysis and the prior study conducted in 2019, Guidehouse modeled DESC as an “islanded system” because it cannot procure operating reserves from external resources. This criticism is inaccurate in two ways. Firstly, DESC was not modeled as an islanded system in either the 2019 study or the current one, and it is objectively false to state otherwise. As mentioned in my direct testimony, Guidehouse modeled the entire Eastern Interconnect on a fully nodal basis (i.e. a full representation of the transmission landscape) for the duration of the forecast period. The Company can and does trade energy with its neighboring BAs as needed subject to interface limits and economic hurdle rates. As shown in response to CCEBA request for records 1-3b, the

1 Company's system was modeled with the ability to import (or export) up to 9,172
2 MW per hour from its neighboring BAs, a value that significantly exceeds its net
3 peak demand in any forecast year. Secondly, criticizing the analysis for not allowing
4 DESC to procure operating reserves from external resources is unfounded because
5 it does not match the Company's actual operations. In real world operations,
6 DESC must supply all of its own operating reserves. The VACAR reserve sharing
7 agreement under which DESC must maintain 200 MW of contingency reserves does
8 not imply that DESC can share all operating reserve requirements with its
9 neighbors; rather, it is to account for one single specific possible contingency that
10 could affect all BAs in VACAR. DESC must hold that 200 MW of contingency
11 reserves from its own resources, and like its neighboring BAs it must hold its other
12 required balancing and load following reserves from its own resources as well. What
13 DESC can do, both in actual operations and as modeled for this study, is import
14 energy from neighboring BAs as necessary (subject to interface limits and economic
15 hurdle rates) if it has to hold back generation from its own flexible resources to
16 provide operating reserves when it would otherwise use those resources for energy.
17 The claims that DESC is modeled as an islanded system and that its inability to
18 procure reserves from external resources is erroneous are both wrong.

19 Second, Mr. Burgess claims that it is inappropriate to compare the actual
20 solar generation against a 4-hour ahead schedule of solar generation, rather than a
21 shorter-term look ahead such as 1-hour, in order to calculate the potential solar
22 forecast error. This criticism is based upon a combination of Mr. Burgess's

1 misrepresentation of the Company's operations and flawed logic. Insofar as
2 misrepresenting the Company's operations, Mr. Burgess writes "as described in
3 DESC's response to ORS 3-3, the Company's system operators hold 'operating
4 reserves in the amount of 40% of the hourly solar forecast' (emphasis added [by Mr.
5 Burgess]). This implies that the Company actually uses a 1-hour solar forecast,
6 rather than a 4-hour forecast." This does not by any means imply that the Company
7 actually uses a 1-hour solar forecast rather than a 4-hour forecast; rather, "hourly"
8 in this instance clearly refers to the granularity of the data (i.e. production expected
9 for an entire hour, not more granular 5 or 15 minute intervals) and not the look ahead
10 time. In reality, DESC receives a single hourly schedule of expected solar
11 generation from each facility owner at the beginning of the day. This means that, in
12 actual operations, by the middle of the day DESC's schedule for expected solar
13 generation is actually greater than 4 hours old. Second, Mr. Burgess does provide
14 evidence by way of a recent analysis published by NREL indicating that "a 1-hour
15 forecast is superior to a 4-hour forecast since it is closer in time to real-time
16 operations." While this is true, his claim that "the sole reason Guidehouse used a
17 4-hour forecast in its modeling is the fact that this is the only publicly available
18 forecast data available" is not. Guidehouse did not consider a shorter duration look-
19 ahead forecast from another vendor because it would not appropriately match actual
20 DESC operations. Guidehouse does not disagree with the conclusion that using a
21 1-hour ahead forecast of solar generation rather than a 4-hour ahead forecast in
22 comparison against actual generation would produce significantly less forecast

1 error, but that reasoning does not mean that it would be appropriate to use for this
2 study. First, while the solar forecast error may be reduced using a 1-hour ahead
3 forecast rather than a 4-hour ahead forecast, the operating reserve requirement
4 would not necessarily be reduced; referring to the rebuttal testimony filed on behalf
5 of the Company by Thomas E. Hanzlik, in order to react to unexpected drops in
6 solar generation the Company needs to be able to plan its thermal generator dispatch
7 and that requires more than a 1-hour look ahead in order to be done effectively.
8 Secondly, as mentioned above, DESC receives a single hourly schedule of expected
9 solar output from facility owners at the beginning of each day, so by the middle of
10 the day the look-ahead is considerably more than 4 hours. Using 1-hour ahead
11 scheduled solar generation rather than 4-hour ahead in this analysis would have
12 reduced what Guidehouse modeled as the incremental increase in operating reserve
13 requirements for each tranche of solar, but it would not have matched actual DESC
14 operations and would have significantly underestimated the potential solar shortfall
15 that DESC has to account for. It is incumbent upon the solar asset owners to provide
16 DESC with more granular and/or frequent data than they currently do in order to
17 reduce the potential for forecast error and thus reduce the Company's minimum
18 operating reserve requirements and solar integration costs.

19 Lastly, the final supposed deficiency that Mr. Burgess identifies is that
20 Guidehouse did not include in its study intra-hour dispatch improvements via a
21 mechanism such as the Southeast Energy Exchange Market ("SEEM") or some
22 other regional imbalance market. I disagree that the lack of including SEEM in this

1 analysis is a deficiency or error. Guidehouse models the world as it is, not as it may
2 be, and pays very close attention to potential market changes. Guidehouse has
3 actively analyzed SEEM on behalf of a number of stakeholders in the southeast and
4 is fully aware of all progress made towards its implementation. With its judgment
5 having been fully informed by these past analyses of SEEM, Guidehouse's position
6 is that currently SEEM is too speculative to include in our Reference Case forecast
7 or this study.

8
9 **Q. ON PAGE 27 MR. BURGESS CLAIMS THAT "A VIC OF \$0/MWH IS**
10 **APPROPRIATE." DO YOU AGREE?**

11 A. I disagree with Mr. Burgess's conclusion. He claims that DESC has not
12 provided sufficient evidence to justify an increase in the VIC due to "the many errors
13 and deficiencies in DESC's analysis." Throughout this rebuttal testimony, I have
14 responded to every single supposed error or deficiency in Guidehouse's work in this
15 case that Mr. Burgess has identified and have thoroughly explained how none are
16 actually errors or deficiencies. In summary, the criticisms are either misplaced,
17 incorrect, or just flat wrong, and do not provide any evidence that the VIC should
18 be set at zero. This statement is simply what Mr. Burgess's clients wish, and is
19 advanced without any meaningful analysis to support the recommendation as
20 reasonable. More to the point, Mr. Burgess is recommending that the cost of
21 integration be shifted to retail customers rather than being borne by his clients who
22 cause the integration costs.

1
2 **Q. ON PAGE 28 MR. BURGESS RECOMMENDS THAT, IF THE**
3 **COMMISSION FEELS COMPELLED TO APPROVE A NON-ZERO VIC,**
4 **THE VIC FOR TRANCHE 1 FACILITIES BE SET TO \$0.28/MWH; ON**
5 **PAGES 29-30 MR. BURGESS DETAILS THE MODIFICATIONS HE**
6 **BELIEVES SHOULD BE APPLIED TO THE GUIDEHOUSE STUDY TO**
7 **ACHIEVE THT NUMBER HOW DO YOU RESPOND TO THIS?**

8 A. Mr. Burgess's suggested corrections to the VIC study are all without merit
9 and should be rejected. The "corrections" that Mr. Burgess claims should be applied
10 are all to address supposed deficiencies that, as I have discussed, are not actually
11 deficiencies.

12 The first change that Mr. Burgess suggests making is to allocate the changes
13 to production costs from the Tranche 1 analysis in the "with reserves case" as
14 compared to the "without reserves" case across all 973 MW of solar capacity
15 included in that analysis instead of excluding the 340 MW of baseline solar capacity
16 and allocating the costs across 341-973 MW of solar penetration that makes up the
17 tranche. As previously discussed, that would be an inappropriate change. The focus
18 of the analysis of this tranche was strictly the 633 MW of solar capacity designated
19 as making up this tranche; the increased incremental operating reserves modeled for
20 this scenario was calculated to account for this specific tranche of solar penetration.

21 The second change that Mr. Burgess suggests making is to weight the hourly
22 change in production cost by the level of solar generation in that hour. However,

1 that would also be an inappropriate adjustment. As previously discussed, changes
2 in operating costs during low solar hours are not related to increasing the available
3 operating reserves in those hours due to the fact that the available operating reserves
4 in those hours (both in recent history and in the forecast) tend to exceed the
5 increased operating reserve requirement even when the requirement is set to the 250
6 MW baseline level. Rather, changes to operating costs during these hours are related
7 to macro-level system dispatch changes needed to optimize the dispatch in order to
8 maintain the increased level of operating reserves needed during high solar hours.
9 Therefore, the change in system costs with increased operating reserve requirements
10 versus without in low solar hours are not related to the amount of solar generation
11 in that hour specifically, and thus weighting costs by the level of solar generation in
12 any hour is inappropriate.

13 The third change that Mr. Burgess recommends is to adjust the analysis to
14 account for calculating operating reserve needs by comparing actual solar
15 generation to a 1-hour ahead forecast instead of the 4-hour ahead forecast that was
16 used. This suggestion is flawed for 3 important reasons. Firstly, Mr. Burgess again
17 incorrectly claims that DESC receives a 1-hour ahead forecast of generation from
18 solar facilities and that the Guidehouse analysis should have used a 1-hour ahead
19 forecast to match. As previously discussed, this claim from Mr. Burgess is
20 objectively false: DESC receives a single forecast at the beginning of the day from
21 each solar facility, which means that by mid-day it is actually even greater than
22 4-hours ahead; when this schedule is labeled as “hourly” that is descriptive of the

1 granularity of the forecast not the frequency with which it is delivered. The second
2 important reason that this suggestion is flawed is because, as previously discussed,
3 the reduced solar forecast error that may be achieved using a 1-hour ahead forecast
4 would not necessarily reduce the minimum operating reserve requirement for the
5 Company. The third important reason that this suggestion is flawed is that Mr.
6 Burgess's math is flawed. Mr. Burgess points to the NREL analysis that suggests
7 that using a 1-hour ahead forecast of solar generation instead of a 4-hour ahead
8 forecast can reduce solar forecast error by 40% and claims that it is appropriate to
9 reduce the calculated VIC by the same amount. Even if it were appropriate to use a
10 1-hour ahead forecast in this analysis, the notion that the resultant decrease in
11 incremental operating reserve requirements would lead to a proportional decrease
12 in VIC is not grounded in reality. If that were the case, then it would lead that the
13 increase in VIC that Guidehouse calculated from Tranche 1 to Tranche 2 and from
14 Tranche 2 to Tranche 3 would be the same proportionally as the increase in
15 operating reserve requirements from Tranche 1 to Tranche 2 and from Tranche 2 to
16 Tranche 3; but that is not the case. Driven by a need to operate a finite system with
17 the same thermal resources in different ways in order to meet changing operating
18 reserve requirements, changes in system costs do not scale linearly with changes in
19 operating reserve requirements.

20 Mr. Burgess's suggested VIC of \$0.28/MWh is based on applying
21 inappropriate "corrections" to supposed errors that are not in fact errors. As such, it
22 is a meritless suggestion that should be rejected.

1
2 **Q. PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR RESPONSE TO MR. BURGESS'S**
3 **TESTIMONY.**

4 A. Throughout his testimony, Mr. Burgess repeatedly makes false claims of
5 deficiencies and errors in the Guidehouse VIC study. Over the course of this rebuttal
6 testimony I have addressed each supposed error that Mr. Burgess identifies and
7 explained in detail why Mr. Burgess is incorrect to label it as such. All of the
8 supposed corrections to the VIC as calculated by Guidehouse that Mr. Burgess
9 suggests are based on flawed logic and should be rejected.

10
11 **REBUTTAL TO TESTIMONY OF MR. BRIAN HORII**

12 **Q. WITH RESPECT TO MR. HORII'S TESTIMONY, PLEASE EXPLAIN**
13 **HOW YOU ORGANIZE YOUR RESPONSES.**

14 A. My rebuttal testimony addresses one specific issue raised by Mr. Horii in his
15 direct testimony.

16
17 **Q. ON PAGE 8, LINES 16-17 MR. HORII STATES THAT IN HIS OPINION**
18 **"GUIDEHOUSE HAS NOT JUSTIFIED THEIR FORECAST OF 16**
19 **INCREMENTAL OPERATING RESERVES NEEDED TO**
20 **ACCOMMODATE SOLAR FORECAST UNCERTAINTY." DO YOU**
21 **AGREE?**

1 A. Yes.